

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [2350] 30M
Message-ID: <199508080453.XAA00697@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Monday night was pretty good on 30M.

Around 0200Z, FS5PL started a swarm around 10.102 or so.
Then I went up to 10.113 and started one of my own. :-)

Worked some of the group and I thank you very much.

Highlight was working DF5JT/HK0 at 35wpm at 0.95W. He was
burning 'em up right and left around 10.101, so it pays to tune
the low end of the band. In fact, I have noticed that
more operators on 30M challenge the edge of the band
more than an other band. :-) Must be all that calibration
being so close to WWV and WWVH. ;-) I have the freq counter
sitting on the desk with calibrator just to make sure.
Scares me to death being that close.

I worked a bunch of /QRP calls. Closed the band around
0500Z. I still have Denver CO and the MD/VA area nailed
down with my antenna system. May have to go out and figure
a way to rotate the trees to get the other states that I
need. :-)

I think I worked 3 members of the Colorado QRP Club last
night. A very active group on the air and well represented.

Look for yours truly on the band all this week. HINT.
Hint.

>From after work until the band closes.

Be there and be square. 5W or less for QRP. Less than
1W for QRPP. :-)

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: swgate3!STLMAIL7!MK2331@wuarchive.wustl.edu
Subject: [2358] 40-40 bandwidth mod...
Message-ID: <m0sfqT0-0000XqC@swgate3>

Microsoft Mail v3.0 IPM.Microsoft Mail.Note
From: KASTIGAR, MATTHEW (MM)
Subject: 40-40 bandwidth mod...
From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: w9sz@prairienet.org (Zack Widup)
Subject: [2347] 8044ABM circuit
Message-ID: <9508080518.AA06583@prairienet.org>

Hi,

Someone posted an address here for data on the Curtis 8044ABM chip. My problem is that I have no graphics capability or even a printer. Would someone be willing to make me a hard copy if I send a SASE and some \$ to cover the copy costs?

Thanks.

72 & 73, Zack W9SZ
dit dit (it's catching!)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: moyle@essc.psu.edu (Alfred M. Moyle)
Subject: [2356] A few items
Message-ID: <9508081434.AA23452@seismic.geosc.psu.edu>

QRP-Landers,

A few items.

Did anyone else hear/work someone signing IS/I0ER on 10.101 at about 0050Z last evening, or did I just imagine the whole thing? The guy was sending his call pretty fast for me, but I think I got it straight. Don't see how I could have confused him for DF5JT/HK0 that K5F0 worked (also on 10.101).

I heard (and tried to call) FS5PL, but couldn't manage to work him. Was running about 5 watts from my QRP+ and couldn't quite manage to make myself heard over all of the others (some VERY loud!).

Speaking of the QRP+, I had some weird behavior out of mine this morning.

When I first
turned it on (on 30 m) I had very low audio with no static crashes and a
hollow kind of tight
filter sound. Same on 40. I heard a W4 calling on 40 (sounded very weak)
and when I keyed the
thing to answer him everything became a lot louder (w/ much static). Must
be a relay hanging
up or dirty relay contacts. Has this happened to anyone else? I hate to
think that I am
going to start having this kind of problem already, the radio is only about
4 months old.

Any input would be appreciated.

73,
Al Moyle/N3KFL

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: N8CQA@aol.com
Subject: [2354] AK0B Stan
Message-ID: <950808102448_50468044@aol.com>

Stan - Sorry to use the bandwidth but I need to contact you re: permission to
reprint an article you ran in the St. Louis group's newsletter. Thanks.
72/73 Buck N8CQA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: mvjf@mvubr.att.com (James M Fitton 508 960 2577)
Subject: [2352] Amazing QSO
Message-ID: <9508081216.AA12130@ig1.att.att.com>

Each morning and evening, (except 1) since mag mounting the
hamstick-40 on the roof of the car, Ive had excellent QSOs
while running 2 watts QRP.And have been late for work
every day for 2 weeks !

This morning, it was an excellent 15 min. QSO, mobile to mobile,
Mass to Indiana. AA9FZ/M to W1FMR/M.....

What a blast !

And in the early days of QRP, on outings, I spent hours just trying to decide the best place to put up a portable 40m dipole!!!! And another hour putting it up, while my family had fun without me.

We pay to learn.

72 Jim W1FMR

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: kd7s@valleynet.com (Bill Jones)
Subject: [2346] Antenna Launchers
Message-ID: <199508080348.UAA20478@sierra.valleynet.com>

A sincere *thank you* to the many who responded to my cry for help on how to get a line over a tree branch with a slingshot and fishing reel. My intent was to address an answer to each of you privately. However, I believe what I learned should be shared with the group.

The general consensus is this: Use six to ten pound fishing line with a one or two ounce sinker. Don't stand directly underneath the limb you're shooting for. Rather, step back and shoot at a lower angle. Once the small line is over the branch, connect it to the end of a slightly heavier line (nylon plumb line @ 175 pound test) and pull it over. Finally, use the new line to get whatever else you want over the limb such as quarter-inch poly etc. Several of you stressed safety. ALWAYS wear safety glasses as it is not unusual for the sinker to get caught up in the slingshot/reel mechanism and come loose. Also, wear a heavy leather glove on your shooting hand to avoid smacking your fingers with the lead weight. I know this from first hand (pun) experience. Watch where you're shooting....if the weight comes off the line it can do a lot of damage.

For those who want to build their own antenna launcher, look at the June, 1991, issue of QST (pp 34-35) for *The EZY Launcher* by Wade Calvert, WA9EZY. It is what I am using, and thanks to many of you, I will now be able to get my antennas up a hundred feet instead of only forty or fifty feet.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>

Subject: [2337] Dayton '96

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950807170630.18445C-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Gang, Can anyone tell me firm dates for Dayton '96?

Thanks es 72, Dave, W6EMD

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995

From: plquick@facstaff.wisc.edu (Paulette Quick, N9OUH)

Subject: [2373] Dayton '96

Message-ID: <199508082037.PAA44450@audumla.students.wisc.edu>

Recently when I set out to remove 30 MB of e-mail from the hard drive I thought to first look over the latest qrp-1 mail. Sure 'nuff, there's the message from Bob Gobrick announcing my nomination for organizer of the Dayton QRP Day.

Now Bob, I am highly complemented by your offer, and it does just happen that I AM putting together a small conference at UW-Madison as we speak, but give me time to think about taking on Dayton.

Presently I am in the midst of an unasked for change. My graduating roommmate is leaving town for a job. I've been searching over two months for a new roommie with no luck. Friday evening the landlord said that unless I found someone by Aug 10 to share the rent with, he would rent the place to the two women he brought over to tour the place. (This was the first time I was made aware of a deadline and I had offered to take over the whole rent until I found someone.)

To keep the story short: by the next day, Saturday, I had found a new place to live. It's far away from campus, compared to my present 10 minute walk. It's with a CPA woman who is out of town a lot, so I'd have her nice house to myself at least half of the time.

I brought up the subject of radio, and she was willing at least, to talk. She may of been thinking of the house a couple blocks away that I swear has on its roof every currently used commercial antenna. I think it's the most beautiful thing I've ever seen, but non-hams may disagree.

When I bring over the 40-80 mtr trapped dipole, I hope she'll see that such a subtle addition would enhance her property.

I move Sunday (NOTHING is packed yet). Between then and Sept. 1 I'll stay with a friend while my stuff sits in the basement of the new place.

So you see, I suddenly have lots to think about besides radio (but not more

important than radio).

I'll get back to the thought of Dayton '96 when life settles down.

72 de N90UH/portable
Paulette Quick
plquick@facstaff.wisc.edu

p.s. Oh yeah, Sunday night when I told the landlord I found another place to live he sounded disappointed. I asked him about the two women and he said that while they both said they liked the place he hadn't heard from them since.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: Bill Acito 08-Aug-1995 1328 <acito@asdg.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [2363] HT mikes on the QRP+ (or other rigs)
Message-ID: <9508081738.AA28561@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

Here's a challenge...

I've been playing with HT mikes (not happy with their length for use with the QRP+, especially with the connector on the back).

Anyone know a way I can wire a small box with the headphone and mic lines from the QRP+ as inputs, and the 1/8 and submini jacks as the output, so I could use an HT mike _without_ changing the dual plug connector?
(ala the Wilderness Cascade)

...

fyi, I have a Ten Tec hand mic kit on order, plus the speech processor kit. I'd like to see if this mic has a longer cord and better shielding.

b

. - I own my own words -

Bill Acito |d|i|g|i|t|a|l|
acito@asdg.enet.dec.com
Digital Equipment Corporation, Hudson, MA

kc1gs
qrp-ne 260
norcal 1147

arrrl life

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: Don_Burns-EPUR01@email.mot.com
Subject: [2366] LF Beacon INfo?
Message-ID: <"Macintosh */PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>

Some months back (possibly March) I picked up the address of a FTP site that has a list of LF beacons. The best I can recall is that the address was mentioned on QRP-L. Does anyone recall this taking place? I need the address!
Thanks.

Don Burns
K4GHD

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: mvjif@mvubr.att.com (James M Fitton 508 960 2577)
Subject: [2343] 000PS
Message-ID: <9508080222.AA11336@ig1.att.att.com>

>From mvjif Mon Aug 7 19:24 EDT 1995
From: mvubr!mvjif (James M Fitton 508 960 2577)
Subject: Re: Patches...
Content-Type: text
Content-Length: 523
Status: R

000PS!..... Bob's last name is Moeller !

(sorry for the bandwitdth.... pls correct spelling.....Thanks)

The QRP-NE Logo patches have arrived.

Light blue logo figure on a white background, with Red lettering.

If interested:

Make checks out to NE-QRP Club.

1 for \$4.00 ppd, or 2 for \$6.00 ppd.

Mail to;

Bob Moeller KA1PXF
9 Corey Lane
Bennington VT 05201-2116

(Bob says they are beautiful)

72 Jim W1FMR

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: mvjfm@mvubr.att.com (James M Fitton 508 960 2577)
Subject: [2342] Patches...
Message-ID: <9508080216.AA07175@ig1.att.att.com>

The QRP-NE Logo patches have arrived.

Light blue logo figure on a white background, with Red lettering.

If interested:

Make checks out to NE-QRP Club.

1 for \$4.00 ppd, or 2 for \$6.00 ppd.

Mail to;

Bob Mueller KA1PXF
9 Corey Lane
Bennington VT 05201-2116

(Bob says they are beautiful)

72 Jim W1FMR

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)

Subject: [2359] QRP ARCI Numbers

Message-ID: <199508081618.LAA01722@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Yesterday morning on the way out the door I had a stack of awards that I have gotten over the years for many things and I had them in frames suitable for hanging, but took them down for obvious reasons.

Well, I told you about the Mapsco people using 5 mil plastic to laminate certificates and stuff, so I took a pile out of the frames dropped them off at Mapsco and then picked them up on the way home. These guys do great work and you gotta see them to believe them.

The reason for this post is to let you know that like a few others I have two QRP ARCI numbers. I found, behind another award, an old certificate dated 1971 with the old QRP ARCI symbol showing 100W as being QRP. My number then was 3471. It was signed by Robert L. Jenks, K7ZVA, then General Secretary of the club.

The later certificate is not dated but has the number 6285 which I have been using in all the tests and stuff.

The problem is that I just ordered 1,000 QSL cards from W4MPY with the 6285 number on it. I shouldn't have done that, as I want to use the older number. The 3471 as K5FJZ and the latter as K5F0, thus the confusion probably on renewal. This call changing business is really scarey.

So, I'm now back to #3471, but I may give you the other during a test to see if you are paying attention. :-)

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5F0 CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995

From: Bill Acito 07-Aug-1995 2102 <acito@asdg.ENET.dec.com>

Subject: [2340] QRP+ Mic problem

Message-ID: <9508080110.AA12475@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

Just a follow-up to all who responded relative to my QRP+ mic problems.

It was indeed RF feedback... I run less than ideal apartment dweller mode... a window mounted whip mounted less than 10ft from the rig.... no surprise. A bypass cap across the mike leads (.005uf) and a couple of ferrite beads on the mic inputs, close to the plug, seem to help substantially. 20m seemed to be the most susceptible.

A Radio Shack replacement HT mic can be modded for use. It seems to work well, but I'm going to try the Ten Tec kit mic, too (and take advantage of the case discount to boot for some other projects).

b

. - I own my own words -

Bill Acito |d|i|g|i|t|a|l|
acito@asdg.enet.dec.com
Digital Equipment Corporation, Hudson, MA

kc1gs
qrp-ne 260
norcal 1147
arrl life

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: "Jim Larsen" <jlarsen@alascom.com>
Subject: [2338] QRP+ Microphone Source Info Needed by AL7FS
Message-ID: <9507078078.AA807838272@mailrouter.alascom.com>

Greetings from Alaska.

I need to order the microphone for the QRP+ and cannot locate the specified company name, address and phone number. I know it was posted previously. Also, if available, the part number from "the company" would be appreciated.

Reply direct to jlarsen@alascom.com

Thank you and

73,

Jim Larsen
AL7FS
Anchorage, Alaska
jlarsen@alascam.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [2378] Regen RX Update
Message-ID: <199508082313.RAA24738@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

Gang,
Gads ... I've gotten about 2 dozen emails in the past hour wanting the circuit for this regenerative receiver. Also heard from TWO others so far who actually built it also. (Now I'm not so embarrassed to admit I built it!).

I promised a family friend (14 year old girl who found the radio fascinating) I would build her one. So let me get one of those \$4 perf boards at Radio Shack and build another one this weekend. Then I'll document it. I'll also find the original article and make some copies of it. So give me a few days and I'll make up a small packet to send to those interested.

I also called the author/designer, Charles Kitchin, at Analog Devices and left a message on his answering machine. Figured I should get his permission to spread his circuit around. He will probably be amazed to find out some hams have actually built the thing and some interest to build some more. Will let you know his response.

Well, we've discussed several times about coming up with a QRP-L RIG. Maybe this is it??? NF0R ... what did you start?

Paul NA5N
swish swish (dit dit on a regenerative receiver)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: nf0r@slacc.com
Subject: [2370] Regenerative Rx
Message-ID: <9508081506.D6738Eb@slacc.com>

Wondering if anyone has built the simple regenerative receiver from Bill

Orr's column in the December 1994 issue of CQ Amateur Radio?

I'm trying to get a copy of the article upon which this design is based. It is from an unknown issue of Engineering Design News. The author is Charles Kitchin, not sure if he is a ham but doubt it.

Comments, handholding etc. will be sincerely appreciated.

73 de Dave, NF0R nf0r@slacc.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: wa5whn@ix.netcom.com (Jay Miller)
Subject: [2353] Special Events Stn. K5QQ
Message-ID: <199508081303.GAA05295@ix9.ix.netcom.com>

Hi all-Y'all (Translating Chuck's, K5F0, greetings into Texan)

It was a pleasure to have NA5N & N1IRZ in Albuquerque with us over the weekend (Aug. 5 & 6), operating @ the Special Events Station at the National Atomic Museum, Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque. We must have talked to 4 or 5 QRP+ Index Labs Xcvrs, and the audio from them, did sound good. That detail had surprised us. We had made it a point to work weak signals, and did talk to quite a few QRP stations & numerous mobile stations. We were not QRP, Icom IC-735 into a 3 element beam, up 50 feet. For those of You who do not know, NA5N operates almost exclusively cw, and is an ex-USN Submarine Vet. Well, Mr. Harden had talked to numerous ex-B-29 crew members (20 meters SSB), and they had kept inquiring about the tail number of the B-29 parked out in front of the Museum. Paul could not stand it anymore, and had stepped outside for a cancer stick, and obtained the serial number. So now we have an Ex-Submarine type, who is now fluent in the ways of the B-29. Right Paul ?

Paul, NA5N, had his entire QRP station on display, just like in the Aug. '95 issue of "CQ", page 69, at the Museum. Numerous People had stopped by to look at it, and ask questions. We even had a School Teacher, from Texas, wanting to know more about building radios, and had asked if Students could do this. People, we are missing a grand opportunity here. Paul's complete station had impressed a School Teacher who was looking for a construction project for her students. How many more teachers are looking for construction projects for their students ?

We had worked 25 QRP stations (those who had told us). Thanks Guys. Total was over 600 (QRO + QRP) contacts in 2 days, with 32 eyeball QSOs. So now, if You have any questions about B-29's, direct them to NA5N. The certificates will go out after Aug. 26th.

This particular IC-735 was also at the NA5N Special Events Station,

July 16, 1995 @ The Trinity Site. It sort of glows in the dark, easy to see @ night, and kind of powers itself now ;^)

72 & 73...Jay, WA5WHN CQC #30

Albuquerque, NM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: David Adams <dave@flowserver.stem.com>
Subject: [2362] The explorer lives (*kinda*)
Message-ID: <9508081701.AA03735@flowserver.stem.com>

Well...finished the Assembly yesterday...rather nice looking really. Dug through my junk closet and realized I don't actually own a decent DC supply at 13.8ish so I ran down to HSC and bought one. Plugged the radio in and...it didn't catch on fire...led was lit and everything...I popped in a pair of phones and heard a slight hiss...increased the af gain and heard a slightly louder hiss...cool...now all I have to do is get the thing aligned so that I may hear more than a hiss...I 'spose it's time to hit the 2 meter repeater and see if anyone wants to toddle out to mountain view with a freq counter (anyone know of a source for a cheap f.c?)..the wait could kill me though....

It's kinda cool not to have something you've built burst into flames.....

73 de dave, n9uxu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: amcleod@caribsurf.com (Angus McLeod)
Subject: [2375] The list-server
Message-ID: <9508082126.AA13929@col2.caribsurf.com>

How do I suspend/discontinue the list?

73, de Gus 8P6SM
Barbados - The easternmost isle.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: rohrwerk@netcom.com (John Seboldt)
Subject: [2345] VFO Stability
Message-ID: <199508080321.UAA16964@netcom2.netcom.com>

Clark Fishman <cfishman@fsac3.pica.army.mil> recommended -7 core material to help stability in VFOs. I have heard of this, but the last Amidon flyer I got with an order (about 3 months ago) had nothing to say about them, though it was listed on the enclosed price list. Something to try.

Meanwhile, the basic consensus is that ANY core material is a compromise for VFO use. An air core coil is by far the most stable inductor to use. The traditional ceramic form is most recommended, with glass tubing and acrylic rod also getting some nods. Toroids have become popular for compactness, of course, but unless that -7 material is really good, air core is still the ultimate if you make room for it.

: John Seboldt rohrwerk@netcom.com / CW: It don't mean a thing
: Amateur radio K0JD... / if it ain't got that swing!
: Church of the Annunciation, / Di dah, di dah, di dah, di dah...
: Minneapolis / (sorry, Duke!)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: frank@yorks.demon.co.uk (Frank, G3YCC)
Subject: [2377] Wkg W2GUM/QRP now!
Message-ID: <6277@yorks.demon.co.uk>

Hi gang. Here it's 2200hrs and called CQ on 14.060 Mhz using 5 watts to my mini dipole. W2GUM, tony in Long Branch NJ comes back. He's using 5 watts from an Argo to a G5RV. We exchange 559 both ways and have a SOLID QSO ... isn't QRP GREAT!!!

I will be calling CQ QRP at 2200 hrs on the same freq plus or minus QRM, for the next couple of nights, how about listening out for me?

73/2

--

Frank G3YCC (G QRP 042)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: ajones@niiia.net (Allen Jones)
Subject: [2367] Re: 40-40 bandwidth mod...
Message-ID: <199508081952.0AA02712@silver.niia.net>

>Has anyone tried putting a switch on the toroid to make the 40-40 band-width
>larger? If it will tune any 50KHz portion, why not a switch at taps for
>7.000 -> 7.050, 7.050 -> 7.100, 7.100 -> 7.150 ? Cover *all* of 40, or at
>least *more* of it... (?)
>Matt N0XEU
>MK2331@STLMAIL7.SBC.COM

Matt . . .

Trying to tap a small toroid inductor and the associated switching rats nest
wouldn't be very practical plus I believe it would add quite a bit of
instability to the L0 circuit.

On page 6 of the SW-40 instruction manual NN1G notes that greater frequency
coverage can be had by increasing the value of the 68pf cap at C9. With the
original cap I was able to cover about 35 KHz. I increased the value to
100pF and now have about 47 KHz of coverage. According to Dave's info the
upper limit is about 1000 pF using an NPO or Silver Mica cap. The more
spread you have the more difficult it will be to tune in stations in the 270
or so degrees of rotation available from R1. I was able to get a nice
10-turn pot and turn counting dial from Hosfelt Electronics that is very
small and really slows down the tuning rate, in my case < 5 KHz per turn.
My total investment was about \$20.

72/73 . . . Allen

=====
Allen Jones K9DZE ajones@niia.net
Michigan City, Indiana EN61nq
ARCI #8797 G-QRP #8812 NorCal #1061
SWOT #1368 SMIRK #5403
=====

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Subject: [2341] Re: Camp Lamps and the like
Message-ID: <950807221338_50211258@aol.com>

Hi Nils,

Sometimes buying power from someone who mass produces it, is much cheaper
than producing it yourself. Plus, if the power goes out in the middle of the
night, you can call the power company and bitch at them, instead of getting
out of bed and fixing it yourself at 3 in the morning and then going into
work at 7 am. Plus, the power companies have lots of reserve power, for when
you fire up your arc welder. couldn't do that in a solar home.

Most of the "solar" homes are compromises, people choose to hang their clothes on a line instead of using a dryer or ironing their shirts. they use fire places to heat their homes instead of turning on an electric heater, they open the curtains in the daytime to let sun in and close them at night to keep the heat in. Do you want to make such compromises, do you have the time.

I dont ! I like spending, what little free time i have, playing radio.

Solar is fun to play with, but i wouldnt want to pay for a full blown system or maintain it in Michigan. Brushing the snow off, every day, in winter, re-aiming the panels every three months to take advantage of the suns changing position. Troubleshooting and replacing panels, batteries, etc. when they fail.

I like running the central air all day long when i'm hot. and not worrying about draining the batteries. guess i'm just a QRO kind of guy, who likes QRP radios.

72, Byron WA8LCZ Detroit

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [2369] Re: Dayton '96
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950808130255.2037B-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Ron & Others,
Many thanks for the dope on dates for Dayton '96! 72, Dave, W6EMD

On Mon, 7 Aug 1995, Monte Stark wrote:

> Hi Dave,
>
> The program from this year lists the following:
>
> 1996 -- May 17, 18, 19
> 1997 -- May 16, 17, 18
> 1998 -- May 15, 16, 17
>
> There is a note at the end of this list to note
> that these dates have changed from previous years.
>
> Hope this helps, cul,

>
>
> 73, Ron,
>
>KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
>ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Sun Valley, Nevada....
>ARRL.....NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....
>

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
Subject: [2372] Re: Dayton '96
Message-ID: <199508082022.NAA21583@netcom14.netcom.com>

Is anyone yet signed up to coordinate rooms for Dayton 96? I missed sign-up for 1995 and had to stay somewhere in a cardboard box.

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: mvjfm@mvubr.att.com (James M Fitton 508 960 2577)
Subject: [2344] Re: Patches...
Message-ID: <9508080228.AA15588@ig1.att.att.com>

0000PS!..... Bob's last name is Moeller. Pls correct my spelling.

QRP-NE Logo Club Patches:

\$4.00 each, or Two for \$6.00 ppd. (No Postage Needed)

Checks payable to NE-QRP Club.

To:
Bob Moeller KA1PXF
9 Corey Lane
Bennington VT 05201-2116

(Bob says they are beautiful)

72 again, Jim W1FMR

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995

From: Peter Hardie <hardie@herald.usask.ca>
Subject: [2360] Re: QRP ARCI Numbers
Message-ID: <Pine.ULT.3.91.950808102121.6240B-100000@herald.usask.ca>

On Tue, 8 Aug 1995, chuck adams wrote:

> So, I'm now back to #3471, but I may give you the other
> during a test to see if you are paying attention. :-)

It'll also weed out those with the software to fill in the number.
I was going to add that feature to my ARCI logging program (for the
Amiga) but now Chuck has scotched that idea :-)

> dit dit

dit

(Yes folks! Save at least 50% on Tx time with my new compression algorithm :-)

Pete
ve5va.qrp@usask.ca

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [2361] Re: QRP ARCI Numbers
Message-ID: <199508081648.KAA09880@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

Pete,
I have had great sport picking on Chucks "dit dit" on my sigs, but
your compression scheme to "dit" I think is the best I've seen yet.
Love it!

I guess that would be dit.z ?

Paul NA5N

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: Peter Hardie <hardie@herald.usask.ca>
Subject: [2365] Re: QRP ARCI Numbers
Message-ID: <Pine.ULT.3.91.950808122443.8362B-100000@herald.usask.ca>

On Tue, 8 Aug 1995, Paul Harden wrote:

> Pete,
> I have had great sport picking on Chucks "dit dit" on my sigs, but

> your compression scheme to "dit" I think is the best I've seen yet.

I'm now working on a revolutionary compression technique which will reduce "dit dit" to the silence between the two dits.

73 de Pete

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: Richard Haynes N5QXF <rhaynes@metronet.com>
Subject: [2368] Re: QRP ARCI Numbers
Message-ID: <Pine.HPP.3.90.950808150513.6813C-100000@fohnix.metronet.com>

On Tue, 8 Aug 1995, Peter Hardie wrote:

> I'm now working on a revolutionary compression technique which will
> reduce "dit dit" to the silence between the two dits.

>

> 73 de Pete

>

If it is not too small, please send me a sample file and I will attempt to build a high-gain front-end for the uncompress program.

72's Richard

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [2374] Re: Regenerative Rx
Message-ID: <199508082110.PAA19966@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

I have not seen the Rx article by Orr in CQ so don't know what its based on. But a couple of months ago I built a 3 transistor regen receiver by Charles Kitchin, Analog Devices, and published in the AUGUST 18, 1994 issue of Electronic Design News (EDN) p. 98-99. I think this is the article/schematic Dave NF0R is referring to.

It is a neat circuit; the article is entitled "\$10 receiver has microvolt sensitivity." I wound the coil on an empty IC shipping tube using (I think) about 4-5 times the windings shown in the article. Eventually I bypassed the last audio transistor and dropped in an LM386 for better audio. As is, the audio is a bit anemic and rebiasing for higher gain made it oscillate. I changed the L-C for better coverage of 40M. With a little practice, you can get CW on 7040

to sound pretty good. I was gonna write it up for CQC or anyone else with interest, but got sidetracked with field day, etc.

If there is any interest in a really neat 3 transistor receiver, I'll draw it up and make it available. Its an ideal project to build something truly from scratch, if you've never done that before. A piece of copper clad or perf board 3x3 inches will do it. (Not counting homemade coil and cap). In the original article, the coil is wound on an empty 35mm film canister, 12 turns total. Now that beats a toroid any old day!

Paul NA5N

* * (dit dit with fuzzy logic)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: eighmy@scott.net
Subject: [2376] Re: Regenerative Rx
Message-ID: <199508082150.QAA06771@koala.scott.net>

Dave,

>Wondering if anyone has built the simple regenerative receiver from Bill

>Orr's column in the December 1994 issue of CQ Amateur Radio?

I built this circuit and it seemed to work pretty good. It certainly isn't as good as a superhet or a DC rcvr but for the amount of parts involved it does pretty good picking up BC stations.

I built mine on a Radio Shack coppber protoboard but probably should have built it "ugly" style. It might have eliminated some of the squeezeels :-)

You will need to keep the shaft of the tuning cap at ground and also put a plastic knob on it to keep down the "hand" effects. Also the circuit really hates soft batteries so make sure they're fresh.

>I'm trying to get a copy of the article upon which this design is based.

>It is from an unknown issue of Engineering Design News. The author is

>Charles Kitchin, not sure if he is a ham but doubt it.

I dug it up when I built and probably still have it on file. Bill's reprint was identical to the original EDN version. Also the article didn't offer much more insight.

72/73/GL,
Gene
wd4mps@scott.net

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: [2357] RE: RTV
Message-ID: <9508081444.AA18459@garnet.inel.gov>

Gee... I thought the WHOLE WORLD knew by now that most RTV caulking compounds can cause damage to copper! Oh well... there ARE some RTVs that don't generate acetic acid in the process of curing that are readily available -- the kind that are used for automotive (and other) gasket sealing. Check your local automotive parts supply; the "good stuff" should say on the label someplace that it is non-corrosive and/or acid free. I have used the stuff to seal antenna traps (among other things) with no sign of corrosion after 10+ years.

72, Larry W1HUE/7
LVE1@inel.gov

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: Mill.Moore@VALLEY.NET (Mill Moore)
Subject: [2364] Re:Slingshots etc.
Message-ID: <195759@hanover.VALLEY.NET>

Bill, KD7S writes that his slingshot arrangement won't get the line to raise an antenna much above 40 feet high.

I use a wrist rocket slingshot and a couple of one-ounce sinkers with some lightweight (eight-pound, as I recall) fishing line, and have been able to get a line over a 100+ foot tree. I think the key is not to use a fishing pole/reel to pay out the line, because it generates too much resistance.

Some folks coil the line onto a cone-shaped form--you just aim the pointy end of the cone toward the target you're shooting at and let the line pay out. I just wind up the line using a figure-eight shape (Did you ever learn how to roll up teletype tape? That's the figure-eight method!).

After I get the fishing line over the tree I use it to pull some one-eighth inch nylon line back. For temporary installations I think you could use something like mason's twine, which is very rugged (and stretchy). I once used mason's twine to hold up a long-wire antenna through a New England winter once

with pretty good success!

73,
Mill, WA1JGK
Hartland, Vt.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [2339] Re: VFO Stability
Message-ID: <199508080022.TAA00424@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

What Cam? Hot sun? What hot sun? We are civilized down here in TX and we do have air conditioning. :-)

Last night I was cleaning out a large box with assorted junk (and I do mean junk) and I found some old toroids outta some Heathkit something or another and they were coated with candle wax. They went into the circular storage basket as I don't like to second guess just what the heck it was that Heath was using for a core. :-) It's worth the extra forty cents to know what the core is to start with and not later after getting everything all pretty and assembled to try to run down a problem. An ounce of medicine and all that stuff....

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: geoffs@onr.com (Geoff Schecht)
Subject: [2348] Re: VFO Stability
Message-ID: <199508080601.BAA16476@Sierra.onr.com>

>Clark Fishman <cfishman@fsac3.pica.army.mil> recommended -7 core material
>to help stability in VFOs. I have heard of this, but the last Amidon
>flyer I got with an order (about 3 months ago) had nothing to say about
>them, though it was listed on the enclosed price list. Something to try.

Amidon gets their powdered iron (carbonyl iron) cores from Micrometals. Micrometals should have info on the latest/greatest high-stability materials that they make. I doubt if Micrometals will ship catalogs to just anyone who asks but if you're an engineer you can get a copy sent to your company with a phone call.

>

>Meanwhile, the basic consensus is that ANY core material is a
>compromise for VFO use. An air core coil is by far the most stable
>inductor to use. The traditional ceramic form is most recommended, with
>glass tubing and acrylic rod also getting some nods. Toroids have become
>popular for compactness, of course, but unless that -7 material is really
>good, air core is still the ultimate if you make room for it.

I built a Vackar circuit a number of years ago that used a 1uH
aircored inductor at around 5MHz. This is a fairly small value for
such a low freq but the high C/L ratio kept the Q high and the Vackar
loads the tank less than some of the simpler oscillators.

Anyway, remember that toroids are a closed magnetic structure and are
generally self-shielding whereas air-core solenoids couple beautifully
to each other unless placed on perpendicular axes (*and* putting a
solenoid-type inductor next to a chassis wall or shield amounts to
coupling it into a shorted turn!).

Core materials that are well characterized/stabilized may indeed have
higher tempcos than air coils but it's possible to track this out over
a wide variety of conditions by a judicious choice of temperature
compensating capacitors. Look inside a Collins PTO and you'll see what
I mean. An isothermal circuit environment and keeping tank circuit
circulating currents at reasonable levels helps minimize temp drifts,
too.

Anyone try injecting isocyanate foam into their VFO's cavity to keep
the temp constant? I did this years ago in a VFO for a PLL and it did
reduce microphonic susceptibility somewhat (I never checked the
thermal drift in a before/after test, sorry!).

Geoff NQ7A Austin

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995

From: "Mark J. Dulcey" <mdulcey@pryder.pn.com>

Subject: [2349] Re: VFO Stability

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950808004358.9618D-100000@pryder.pn.com>

On Mon, 7 Aug 1995, John Seboldt wrote:

> Meanwhile, the basic consensus is that ANY core material is a
> compromise for VFO use. An air core coil is by far the most stable
> inductor to use. The traditional ceramic form is most recommended, with
> glass tubing and acrylic rod also getting some nods. Toroids have become

> popular for compactness, of course, but unless that -7 material is really
> good, air core is still the ultimate if you make room for it.

This is true for rigs intended for use while standing still. Air-core inductors, especially the large ones needed for HF use, might present a problem with mechanical stability in mobile and hand-held gear, though, resulting in a drift cure that is worse than the disease of core instability. The best bet there, of course, is a frequency synthesizer, but a well-built ceramic or even powdered-metal toroidal core is likely to be a better bet than air-core.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: "John F. Woods" <jfw@jfwhome.funhouse.com>
Subject: [2351] Re: VFO Stability
Message-ID: <199508081156.HAA18721@jfwhome.funhouse.com>

> Meanwhile, the basic consensus is that ANY core material is a
> compromise for VFO use. An air core coil is by far the most stable
> inductor to use. The traditional ceramic form is most recommended, with
> glass tubing and acrylic rod also getting some nods.

True, but it turns out that air core is also something of a compromise: the disadvantages are the large physical size (obviously), and the coupling to other circuits. (Enclosing an air core inductor in a metal can lowers its Q because of the coupling to the can.) Toroids are self-shielding and have little (if not quite no) coupling to nearby wires.

I believe the -7 material has a TC of +30ppm/*C, as opposed to -6 which is +35ppm/*C (a small difference, but better than nothing). I happen to have a bunch of T44-7 cores, from when Amidon accidentally shipped me T44-7 instead of T50-7, and then sent, as replacements, another batch of T44-7...

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 08-Aug-1995 1001" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [2355] re: VFO stability
Message-ID: <9508081422.AA17888@us4rmc.pko.dec.com>

> The simple Hartley circuit (such as W7EL's Optimized QRP Xcvt) never
> satisfied me -- it never seemed to settle down, with a slow drift downward
> that never stopped. This is after boiling the toroid (which helped),

Yup, I had the same experience with a Hartley. Didn't try boiling the toroid.

> Then I built up the series-tuned Colpitts used by W1FB, a breadboard
> version without a box. At 7 MHz, a toroid inductor (about 6 uH) again
> proved unsatisfactory, the drift being about the same. Using a piece of
> close spaced airwound coil stock, stability improved a lot, with many 1

I tried series-tuned "Clapp" configuration for the 40m superhet I'm building. I tried two coils: one wound on a T68-6 toroid, the other an air core coil of about 1 inch diameter, hand wound. Results were worse than the same circuit with a parallel-tuned tank. I was attempting to get lower drift, as mentioned by W7ZOI and W1FB in "Solid State Design". I finally gave up on series-tuned, and went with parallel-tuned Colpitts, which is a great deal better than the Hartley mentioned above. I don't really know why I got these results for the Clapp ckt... and now you've confirmed Heyward and DeMaw's findings.

> Better yet, a close-wound wire coil on a 1/2 inch ceramic form (no slug)
> did even better in the above circuit. One run I left it sitting all
> night, and it stayed with a half-step at about 200 Hz audible pitch -- a
> drift of about 10 Hz! Spot checks during the day showed it staying

This I have to try. I've been keeping an eye out for a supply of ceramic-form coils or just the forms at the flea markets... nothing so far.

-Tom R. N100Q randolph@est.enet.dec.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 8 19:20:00 1995
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [2371] Re: VFO Stability
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950808130700.2037C-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

John,

The -7 material IS a lot better than the others, but it turns out that it is very sensitive to stray magnetic fields, too! Anything magnetic near the rig can cause VFO frequency shift. There was even a report of shift when mobile and driving under a steel bridge! 72, Dave, W6EMD

On Mon, 7 Aug 1995, John Seboldt wrote:

> Clark Fishman <cfishman@fsac3.pica.army.mil> recommended -7 core material
> to help stability in VFOs. I have heard of this, but the last Amidon
> flyer I got with an order (about 3 months ago) had nothing to say about
> them, though it was listed on the enclosed price list. Something to try.
>
> Meanwhile, the basic consensus is that ANY core material is a
> compromise for VFO use. An air core coil is by far the most stable
> inductor to use. The traditional ceramic form is most recommended, with

> glass tubing and acrylic rod also getting some nods. Toroids have become
> popular for compactness, of course, but unless that -7 material is really
> good, air core is still the ultimate if you make room for it.
>
> : John Seboldt rohrwerk@netcom.com / CW: It don't mean a thing
> : Amateur radio K0JD... / if it ain't got that swing!
> : Church of the Annunciation, / Di dah, di dah, di dah, di dah...
> : Minneapolis / (sorry, Duke!)
>
>
>